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MEETING, SATURDAY, October 16

(The movie "Gold Rush Days" with Charlie Chaplin was played as an exercise to control laughter.)

The control of laughter was good, the movie had humor from one angle of thought.

Student: It also seemed to be sad in parts.

That is right, it is life...One of (my) students once said that (i) am like Charlie Chaplin.

Please try to use (my) name as little as possible. (i) don't like to hear it -- it is not (me).

MEXICO

There will be a trip to Mexico probably in February. There will be two levels: abundant and frugal (mostly frugal). It will be fun for all and good for impressions.

Q. How much will it cost?

A. In general, we will travel as economically as possible. Yet, for those who wish they may (and should) live high at times. We will have a planning day one day. (i) think $250 should do it, and less for some and more for some.

C INFLUENCE

Students were asked how many have verified that C influence is a reality? (Several raised hands.)

Help (from C influence) is given in the amount it is appreciated and valued.

Just about all the people who raised their hands are on the "way". Some are on the "way" who did not raise their hands.

Everything here is fated. (my) words are never (my) own, even now. C influence controls all of us to wake us up.

When you are less extreme, less happy and less sad, more mellow, more 40 or 50 (or Number 4 or 5), less identified, then you are on the way.

THE FARM

If people cannot afford the farm, speak to me and (i'm) sure it can be arranged.

We can give food, lodging, and presently cannot give people money. Eastern teachings have always done this and teachers and students also begged for food and still do.

Colodi, who wrote Pinocchio, said that the wealthiest people have to beg for food.

SNAKES

Wear strong, high boots and try to stay on trails and walk cautiously. Listen to what you think are lizards, they can be snakes.

Q. It's cold weather now, and snakes less apt to be out anyway.

A. Yes, and we may have some more warm weather.

Yorgos and the teacher had an experience of seeing a rattle snake on the trail - several others. People started shifting (the moving center). (A brain of its own.)

Miscellaneous Notes from October 16

People are interested in evolution on their own terms (they would like the teaching to be what their idea of a teaching is).

Q. What about other groups. They are studying the same things we are?

A. If you think that anyone in life is on the same path, you don't yet know what you have met here. There are people who could be here, but do not have luck (good fate).

Ouspensky said, "You must not discount luck. You must have luck to meet a teaching."

It is only possible to become conscious in this present life by fate. Some people here may be fated to become conscious in another life, or this life.

Gurdjieff said, "We are all equally beggars."

OPEN MEETINGS

Nov. 2, 4, 9. Please work with new people if you haven't. Each person try to bring one or more people. Don't worry if you don't have anyone, though.

Most people would go mad if they stopped "puttering".

We will end now, and (i) hope you know (i) love you more now, even though (i) do not speak.

MEETING AT FARM, October 18

Separate: for a source of friction and health, we will stop making coffee in the farm house until Dec. 1 and at that time another decision will be made to continue or not. It will produce negativity, which is food for the Self to come into existence.

If you wish to make coffee in your tent, it is your privilege. It would be best to end the habit.

People do not drink coffee or smoke cigarettes - they drink a habit and smoke a habit. The drinking of coffee and the smoking of cigarettes is a buffer. It keeps filling time to avoid the helplessness of being unable to cope with the simpleness of existence.

Remember - to use it as a source of friction.

(i) will still drink coffee once in a while, just as (i) smoke once in a while (not being mechanical), and presently (i) have three cups of coffee a year and 10 cigarettes. And (i) taste them, and use them for higher centers. On alcohol, we will eventually almost eliminate them (maybe serve at festive occasions).

When a person uses drugs, or drinks, they borrow from tomorrow. Like a heavy person who eats too much on one day and at that time says, "I will diet tomorrow". People borrow from tomorrow. Peter Ouspensky said that.

Also, most conscious men do not smoke or drink, and in the East they do not have sex. Gurdjieff and Ouspensky were the exception in this area.

If you have one cup of coffee a day, it's not a buffer (sometimes 2 cups). Water is the best drink.

A rock record says, "i don't always get what i want, but i always get what i need. It is Western personality that drinks and smokes (false personality).

BERKELEY MEETING, October 19

Brian Marshall introduced his friend, Alan Lucas. The comment was that it looks like Brian has brought his own replacement.

Discussion of angles of thought about the "lower eating the higher". If the teacher is eaten, it is called a "crime".

It is one of the ways C influence works.

Crime can make other students stronger who see and do not make the same mistake.

One area where a student eats the teacher is when the student wastes the teacher's work -- for example, not doing a task.

A teacher is intended to be drawn from, but not eaten.

"Never did the eagle stoop so low as to listen to the blackbirds". That is the Self listening to the many "I's".

Q. False personality likes to be liked. Does essence like to be liked?

A. Essence is liked without trying to be liked. Essence can be hurt by insensitive people.

Angle of thought is that "I's" that feel a "need" of another person are false personality.

The lower cannot see the higher. That is a Law.

PROBLEMS

Problems rely on outraged honor, being slighted, lack of justice, etc., and literally are not real. Parts of the emotional center enjoy problems.

Problems can come from willfulness.

A good student said to me over the weekend, "You make it hard for us." (i) replied that you will forgive me when you are near death.

(i) am balanced and do not make it hard or easy.

When a person is about to die, all he has left of importance in his life are his moments of consciousness; that is, when his Self was awake and time has not eaten the moments of self-consciousness.

Ouspensky said that these are our precious possessions.

Do not let the emotional center take you down on the subject of death.

SUBJECT OF SUICIDE

Suicide, in general, is vanity. The emotional center wants to be noticed or has taken itself too importantly (vanity).

Ouspensky formulated the theory that people who commit suicide will live their lives over and over and commit suicide at an earlier and earlier time and eventually will be born dead. There is a medical name for such babies. They are born with a healthy body, but seemingly no will to live. It is called "merasmus" or "failure to thrive" (reported Richard Hannah).

Do not try to save anybody here who tries to commit suicide. They

shouldn't be here. And they will strangle you just as some drowning people drown someone who tries to save them.

Q. What eventually happens to the soul of a person who commits suicide earlier and earlier and then is born dead?

A. It would cease to exist. Ouspensky formulated that this would be the only true death -- the death of a soul.

Q. Are the Self and the soul the same thing?

A. Presently we will say that it is. There are many names for the Self-- the nameless one, astral body, the little gray bird, the light, the third eye, higher emotional and higher intellectual -- these are "pen names" for the Self. It is not a word, it is a state.

It is possible that people continually learn too much too soon in their lives and eventually think that they know what there is to know. Such persons are Krishnamurti, Allen Watts, etc.

They play that life over and over again, always learning too much too soon.

According to Ouspensky's formulation, people have 2 or 3 lives in which to make it after meeting a C influence group.

Q. Allen Watts tries to teach knowledge to others, to help others.

A. Yes, and he teaches his errors to others. He has errors and he does not know they are errors.

Allen Watts is a high person, and yet he has missed the target, and does not know there is a target. A fatal error. (To the questioner: Try to give up the idea of justice.)

These people cannot work with a C influence teaching because they "know everything". What opens the door on one level, may close it on another.

Buddha has formulated that it is one of the signs of Buddhahood for a teacher to be able to get people to value their selves more than the illusion of life.

It is always difficult to meet a school.

About no coffee at farm house. It is fine to irritate personality by not giving it cigarettes and coffee at times.

Some people need to feed a wolf; others need to irritate personality now (to produce friction).

A third force cannot be born without the duality of friction. C influence will give you more help.

Q. Some people seem to be so glum.

A. People are in sleep and it is glum if you can't wake up and you know it. Also, it is leaving imaginary suffering, the fire keeps going out. There is joy if the Real "I" crystalizes.

Q. Gurdjieff seemed to have so much joviality in his teaching.

A. Yes, and he also gave them a knee in the stomach and struck them which is a form of love (he was trying to wake them up Martially).

Mary Ward is here -- a new octave. She is similar to Bonita, the first student.

Charles Ward may be replacement for Jim Bullock -- Jupiter.

This is not a Gurdjieff teaching-- it is Esoteric Christianity -- and, as always, it still hurts.

To change your level is as a caterpillar becoming a butterfly.

Also, the teaching was around before Christ manifested on earth.

Q. What about not using your name?

A. Just minimize it. "Robert" is OK, it just doesn't need to be said much. (i) don't like "teacher" or "instructor" either.

We will end now, loves.

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MEETING AT FARM, October 21

Isn't it nice (we) have a farm, after all the looking (we) did.

Q. What two centers accept that existence is simple?

A. Higher emotional and higher intellectual. The Self sees existence as simple.

The Self has a capacity to accept objective facts of existence, and not try to make existence what his or her personality imagines existence to be like.

Q. Does the Self choose the next role, or is it ordered by higher forces?

A. A guess would be the latter.

Q. If a person gets to No. 4, when he recurs, will he be No. 4?

A. (i) don't know, most probably move on.

Q. Can you explain what the Enneagram is about?

A. George Gurdjieff, as (i) understand it, was the first esoteric teacher to release the diagram to the public. It has been passed on from teacher to teacher with an understanding that it should be given to only a few. It is a complete teaching, as other forms are a complete teaching.

Q. Why is C influence?

A. It enjoys existence.

Everything is a part of the whole. Parts have a separate identity as well as being parts of the whole.

Ouspensky has formulated that at death, the Self immediately is born again into the same home with the same parents. We will understand more two years from now.

Q. I cannot see the relevance of learning about the Ray of Creation or the Table of Hydrogens, when we are studying ourselves.

A. Different types here need different food. Also, as buffers are removed, knowledge is necessary to replace the buffers.

Also, such knowledge brings relativity to the scale of our existence--how small we are.

In addition, Ouspensky, for example, didn't receive that knowledge until after being in the teaching for about 20 years. Maybe in 20 years we will find it more useful.

Try to ask practical questions. Knowledge should be useful. It is fine if something is useful for you and not for others.

Q. What should the relationship be with parents and children here? What kind of atmosphere best for them?

A. Good householder.

Q. C influence will take care of their atmosphere and environment.

A. We must proceed as if C influence wasn't present.

Overall it is best to have children in private homes on the ranch. They are lucky not to be in public schools.

FROM ROBERT'S NOTEBOOKS

"Existence is odd."

"For women, watch the hens on the farm -- no insult at all intended -- just observe a female species, wants chicks...after raising a brood, they're right back at it again."

"Meher Baba said, 'I am the one who loves you more than you could love yourself'."

"(i) do not need a 'no' -- (i) only need your love."

"When a person is doing something questionable the reason (i) may ask about it is that you are trying to attach your will to mine, and what you are doing is not my will."

"Try to keep musical records that have words out of the house."

"Necessary laws are the same for all. People can be under more unnecessary laws, depending on their level of being."

"What holds most women back from evolution is that they are more attracted to males and children than to their selves."

"Our poor little emotional centers cannot understand the No. 3 person."

"Forgive each other here."

"The problem is within you, not without. Try to use it as friction."

"Work against any weakness in yourself and you work against Chief Feature. It is building Will" (Peter Ouspensky).

"(i) love you and won't let you down."

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